

**Abstract**

The present invention relates to polypeptides or non-polypeptides derived from C1q, a subunit of the first complement component molecule C1. These molecules bind to the C1q receptor on the Fc domain of an antibody in immune complexes (also called  
5 antigen-antibody complexes or aggregated immunoglobulins), but do not bind to free immunoglobulins. These complement component derived molecules may be used as tracer molecules for fluorescence polarization (FP). The present invention also relates to materials and methods of producing molecules for use in FP. The present invention has many applications in the areas of biosensor development for proteomics research, protein  
10 expression profiling, drug discovery, diagnosis and prognosis, monitoring therapeutic effects, environmental survey, and bio-defense.